FRENCH POLITICS.

THE ELECTIONS IN THE HAUTES PYRENEES. VARIOUS PARTISAN THEORIES OF THE SUCCESS OF THE BONAPARTIST CANDIDATE-POLITICAL AIMS OF THE DUKE D'AUIFFRET-PASQUIER-THE COM-MIFTEE OF INQUIRY IN REGARD TO THE NIEVRE ELECTION.

(FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.) Paris, Dec. 20.-Though elections resemble each other in their general features, each, as it follows, adds a new line to the lesson taught by its predecessors, and has a physiognomy of its own. None has been more significant nor better worth studying than this last in the Hautes Pyrenees. Of the five deputies sent to Bordeaux from this department, one was a Republican and four were Monarchists, one of these last an extreme Legitimist. The all voted the deposition of Napoleon and his dynasty. At the slection held on the 3d of this month four candidates presented themselves. Cazeaux, the Bonapartist, had 19,743 votes; Alicot, Septennalist, 16,412; Brahanban, Republican, 12,158; Puysegres, clerical Legitimist, 1,738. No one having a majority, the second trial came off two weeks later. Meantime the Legitimist simply withdrew from the contest, the Republican withdrew in favor of the Septennalist, who was now sustained by Repubblican committees and Republican journals of all shades, "although he was the candidate of the Prefect," on the ground that "any one was better than a Bonapartist." The canvass went on briskly. The result last Sunday was a complete triumph for the Imperialists. Of 65,000, the whole number of registered electors, 53,000 -that is, 2,000 more than on the first trial-went to the polls; and Cazeanx was returned by 29,761 votes,

against 23,100 cast for Alicot. The defeated parties, as usual, give a variety of more or less contradictory and ingenious explanations of the phenomenon. These, spoken in as much anger as sorrow, if not more, largely consist of criminations; the remainder is made up of declamatory abuse of the Imperialists. It is authentically certain that if all of Branhanban's constituents had gone over to Aheot, and if all Alicot's mixed following had stood firm, the latter must have been elected. So far as one can judge from conflicting testimonies and the nature of the case, it seems that on one hand a portion of the Republican Democrats. declined to be suddenly persuaded to vote for a man sgainst whom and whose suppporters they and their leaders had so lately been marshated in active hostility, and preferred a Bonapartist who was at least Democrat and had a distinct programme, to the very doubtfully Republican candidate of Royalista representing the indefinite, undefinable makeshift of Septennalism. On the other hand, a larger portion of timid or conceited De Broglian Conservatives were so alarmed or offended at the thought of marching with Republican allies, that they preferred making

friends with the common enemy. The Republicans killed poor Alicot, say the Orleanists, and should not be Republicans. The Republicans retort: the Orleanists killed Alicot, and should not be Orleanists. There is a large clerical Legitimist element in the Department, which is the earthly demicil of Our Miraculous Lady of Lourdes. The Marquis de Franclieu, a pure, blue-blooded leader of the Chambordist squadron, was elected there four years ago by 28,000 voices. Some of these now have favored Alicot, but more Cazeauz. The cherical managers are Chambord, and that, between any other monarch and the ron of Eugenie, the chances of favor to their cause are best under the reign of Napoleon IV. Has not the Pope already pronounced for his other young godson, Alfonso? The thorough-going political or worldly Legitimists, who, from pride of onsistency, sheer obstinacy, or other sentiment, theoretically nail the white flag to the mast, if they must, in practice, leave the quarter-deck, would much prefer comfortably joining as cabin passengers of the ship of state flying the tri-color, under Commander Napoleon IV. than Commander Louis Philippe II. Anything rather than Orleanism since the dupory of August-November, 1873. The Orleans dupery of August-November, 1873. The Orleans have never brought good to the elder branch, least of all when the Count de Paris carried his homage to Frohsdorff. The simple, seeluded, lymphatic gentleman residing there took that "complimentary vote" for real homage rendered to him and his principles and party by his penitant cousin and heir to standard committees which act in that was toward us; the standard committees which act in that was toward to standard committees which act in that was toward to standard committees which act in that was toward to standard committees which act in the standard committees which act in that was toward to standard committees which act in the standard committees ciples and party by his penitent cousin and heir representative of his party and its more improved principles. What else should be and his take it for, unless assuming dishonesty in the cousin? So he held to his immaculate flag, and destroyed a "combination" that his poor, soft, divine-right head never comprehended. Hard-headed worldlings have recomprehended. Hard-headed worldlings blanching for the honorably consistent stupidity. The cover the mischief for the moment, the astute Duke de Brogtie and helpers constituted the Septemciples and party by his penitent cousin and heir Duke de Brogin and helpers constituted the Septenwat. In lack of large strength and great faults, redeemed by daring astuteness, is the Duke de Brogtie's weakness. The rank, with attendant influence. and esteem of able political manager (let alone statesman, that has hitherto been allotted to this hereditarily henerable, highly cultured, but essenfially narrow-minded, cast and class doctrinaire politician, is a curious phenomenon of this confused French time. No one of several too ingenious schemes of his devising, as substitutes for statesmanlike place and institutions, works to his purpose. This election in the Hautes Pyrenecs, subjected to whatever pressure his modifications of the electoral law, and all his other combative measures for moral order administered by one of his prefects could be brought to bear, results in the helpless defeat of his Septennat caudidate. I say his, for, though the Dake de Broglie has not been in office for many months, the Septemat generally and its administrative force as applied against Republicanism and to elections particularly, have been guided and missuided, directly or indirectly, by the hand or ideas or of that doctrinaire duke. Whether he is to be nominally, or otherwise, chief of the new Ministry in pello, grows, since the last few days,

slightly questionable. Before the returns of the Pyrences election came in there were caucusses of delegates from Right, Center (Orleanist), and Moderate Right (semirational Legitimists), the result of whose deliberations was a rupture, that should seem final, of the two. The Duke de Breglie himself as good as admitted that the reconstruction of the "conservative majority" of 24th May could no longer be hoped for. Among the conceivable consequences of this breach (and of the nature of it) is conjectured to be that the Duke d'Audiffret-Pasquier may become the new premier, which might mean that he would associate with himself the intensely conservative republican Dufaure of the right edge of the Left Center, and, in fine, arrive at that land where it is thought the two Centers may at last conjoin. Although a duke, d'Audiffret-Pasquier is a quite modern and in a sort accidental duke. He is a thorough and frank constitutional monarchist, but in his hate and patriotic fear of Bonapartism he is ready to accept and strengthen the actual Republic for the next six years. The difference between him and the Duke de Broglie may be expressed in this formula: If bad comes to worse, he would prefer seeing a future Republic than an Empire; the other Duke would prefer seeing an Empire than a Republic. Both protest against both, and would not willingly work for either. The Duke de Breglie's Olympian conceit blinds him to a danger that d'Audiffret-Pasquier, despite averted eyes, clearly comprehends.

The great failing of these and other leaders of groups of deputies, or of leading editors of journals of all parties, is a sorry party parrowness of view. In the Assembly a few Frenchmen, notoriously not representing the present rule and wishes of the numerous Frenchmen who for a special purpose four years ago sent them there, presume to assume a power which, in their own showing, they do not possess, and impose the exercise of it without moral force in defiance of the expressed national wish and will. In this sad respect and view it must be confeesed that the Republicans are not to be distinguished favorably from other political sects. They have come to fear the formidable growth, shown in late elections, of Democratic Imperialism. They have lately made what to an outside Liberal and well-wisher for the quiet advent of the fatally iss

coming French Republic seems a needlessly gross PLANS FOR CITY TRAVEL. error, in the manner and spirit with which they have instituted and propose to have conducted the Parliamentary Committee of Inquiry respecting the Nièvre election. Last May, M. Bourgoing, Bonapartist, was elected Deputy in the Department of the Nièvre. So thereafter a Republican Deputy of the department brought to the notice of the Assembly a copy of what seemed to be a circular letter, issuing from a central Bonapartist Committee, which, in its terms and purposes, seemed to reveal illegal action and purposes on the part of its authors. The formal administrative investigations into this impropriety that were thus instituted had a suspiciously small meaningless result. The recently named Parliamentary Committee of Inquiry into this case, when a frankly renowned Bonapartist was elected, is composed of one reasonable Frenchman and 15 other Republicans, Orleanists, and Legitimists, who cordially hate each other, determined for party purposes to investigate and find wrong all action in committee of all Bona-

A COMPREHENSIVE EPISCOPATE.

A REMARKABLE LETTER FROM A HIGH CHURCHMAN.

THE CONFIRMATION OF A LOW CHURCH BISHOP URGED-DR. JAGGAR'S EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY FOR MR. CHENEY, AND SUBSEQUENT REPUDIATION OF THE CUMMINS MOVEMENT-A NOVEL SPECIES OF RETALIATION.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: The remark has been made in my hearing, as if the fact were likely to induce certain Standing Committees and Bishops to withhold their consent to the consecration of the Roy, Dr. Jaggar, that he was one of the signers of a letter of sympathy for Mr. Cheney, at the time of his first sentence by an ecclesiastical court in Illinois. This, I confess, would of itself have prevented my ever voting for him, had I been a member of the Convention that chose him. But now that he is chosen, the question is entirely different. It is not whether we will "choose" a certain man, but whether we will refuse to permit the consecration of one who is

duly chosen. Now the solemn testimonial signed by the Diocesan Convention in his favor is positive evidence which ought not to be set aside exception grounds still more positive. We shall have no end of scandals and troubles if the extraordinary means resorted to in order to de feat Dr. Seymour are to be employed after every election of any man of decided views in either direction. No true friend of his would like to retaliate upon opponents the very course which they have protested against in regard to him. That letter of sympathy for Mr. Chency was a natural expression of party feeling by party men for one of their own party, who in their opinion was suffering solely for his fidelity to their party principles. But, right or wrong, it was more than three years ago, and for any Standing Committee to refuse to sign the testimonial of a bishop-elect because of a thing that happened longer ago than "three years last past," is simply an uncanonical impertinence.

There are three parts to the testimonial a Standing Committee is called on to sign. The first is purely negative. They testify that the Bishop-elect "is not, so far as they are informed, justify liable to evil report, either for errer in religion or for viciousness of life." The man may be "liable to evil report" in both directions. The air may be full of rumers against him. Newspapers and promptle to exist speaker was Mr. Boyd, who made Senator air may be full of rumers against him. Newspapers and promptle to evil report "in both directions. The next speaker was Mr. Boyd, who made Senator air may be full of rumers against him. Newspapers and promptle to evil report "in both directions. The next speaker was Mr. Boyd, who made Senator which should govern under all circumstances of leasting, and by approving of certain plans within specified inits, thus narrow the choice now to be made between three or four individual plans. Hence they report will be found to be a mine of information for all concerned appoint that the Standing Committee must know, the Board of Aldermen, who should undertake to build in a province of the Diocesan testimonial. For our weight that the Standing Committee must know, To outweigh that the Standing Committee must know, the Board of Aldermen, who should undertake to build importance it will be issued to be seen that he is "liable to evil report" but that he is shrewd enough to know there is no chance for set that he is "liable to evil report" but that he is this read. The bill, in his judgment, after consultation "justly hable"-a very different thing. And in order to be able to judge whether he is "justly" liable or not, the information on which they proceed must be something far more solid than mere rumor or supicion.

Then what is meant by "error in religion i" It is preposterous to suppose that it means to cover all those points of difference that distinguish the various parties or schools that exist within the intended comprehensiveness of this Church. Nothing is more utterly wild than the idea that this Church has one standard of the consideration of the constant of the points of difference that distinguish the various parties lue be attempted it will only be the shifting line

held to bear its canonical sense. "Impediment" does not mean that the man may not know quite so much Hebrew, or be quite so amiable in disposition, or quite so strict a disciplinarian, or quite so profound a theolo-gian, or quite so polished a gentleman, as the Standing so strict a disciplinarian, or quite so profound a theologian, or quite so polished a guilleman, as the Standing Committee think desirable in a bi-hop. "Impediment" doesn't mean that. It means being under the canonical age; or being non compos mendis; or guilty of having procured his election by simony, or volence, or francis or some such positive and palpacie thing; and, under the "anciest canonical having been twice or thrice married would be an Issuperable "Impediment." But in the true canonical sense of the term sincer our American system, no man has ever been elected to the Episcopate in this Church against whom any "impediment" could be urged.

It may be thought that this reduces the range of the action of the Standing Committees within very marrow limits. And so it does. If every Standing Committee is hereafter to overhand every Episcopal election on any and every remor in regard to anything concerning a bishopelect at any previous time, according to the unnuppy precedent set at our fast General Convention, we shall have nothing but trouble. Unless our Bishops are to be selected from among those of the clerky who are such comparative associates they have buildly been heard of before, we shall have no accession to the Episcopate until the poor man has first been dragged through the dirt by all the liars, siandeers, and busybodies that partisan feeling can influence or "interlamits. And so it does. If every Standing Committee is hereafter to overhaul every Finescopal election on any and every rumer is regard to anything concerning a bishopelect at any previous time, according to the unmappy preceded so at our last General Convention, we shall have no most hose of the clergy who are such early been heard or before, we shall have no necession to the Episcopate through the dirt by all the librars, sanderers, and busy-bodies that partisan feeling can influence or "interviewers" of the daily press encourage. The Episcopate of this Church is not a club, where any man may be blackbelled for any reason, or for no reason except personal prejudice or caprice. It is a constitutional body, governed by constitutional law. By that constitution the Diocese." If the Low Church party have a right within the Church at all, they have as clear a right to their Bishops as they have to their priests, or their newspapers, or their summaries, or their priests, or their newspapers, or their summaries, or their priests, or their newspapers, or their summaries, or their priests, or their newspapers, or their summaries, or their priests, or their newspapers, or their summaries, or their priests, or their newspapers, or their summaries, or their priests, or their newspapers, or their summaries, or their priests, or their priests, or their newspapers, or their summaries, or their priests, or their newspapers, or their summaries, or their priests, or their newspapers, or their summaries, or their priests, or their newspapers, or their summaries, or their priests, or their newspapers, or their summaries, or their priests, or their newspapers, or their summaries, or their priests, or their newspapers, or their summaries, or their newspapers, or their summaries, or their priests, or their newspapers, or their summaries, or their priests, or their newspapers, or their summaries, or their priests, or their newspapers, or their summaries, or their newspapers, or their summaries, or their newspapers, or their summaries

But if there are any whose throats are yet so narrow

imously.

But if there are any whose throats are yet so narrow that they caunot swallow that sympathy with Mr. Cheney, even if it was more than three years are, I would remind them that since then, and so laiely as November, 1873. Mr. Jaggar was one of those who promptly repudiated Bishop Cummins's movement. The form of words was tals: "The undersigned having heard with profound sorrow of the movement in mow making by Bishop Cummins for the organization of a new 'church on the badis of the Prayer-Book of 1755,' desire to say that they have no sympathy with this measure, and that it does not represent the views and feelings of evangelload men." And among the signatures will be found the name of "Thomas A. Jaggar." After this we trust that no High Church Standing Committee will be mean onough to rake up the obsolete expression of sympathy with Mr. Cheney.

A comprehensive church must necessarily be a church embracing wide varieties of epinion and action. To-morrow the range will run us into sectarization of the one side or into Ultramontanism on the other-systems which are equally insolerant of varieties. But if we have these varieties present and by the admission of all lawfully present, among priests, deacons and laity, it is an intolerable miguite to try to exclude them from the Episcepate. It cannot be done, except possibily in a chance coincidence of clreimstances now and then, and every attempt to do it will work only evil, and that continually. I, for one, am for justice and air dealing; equal rights under equal haw for all. Nothing would give me greater pleasure than to see that High Churchmen had forgiven the imjustice of that October to the Bishop-elect of Himois by their manimous confirmation of the Bishop-elect of southern Onno. And may that confirmation bring in a state of better feeling, a foller recognition of constitutional and canonical right, and a truer feeling of fraternsi confidence and peace.

Platisburgh, Feb. 4, 1875.

SUIT AGAINST THE CALIFORNIA PACIFIC RAIL-ROAD COMPANY.

San Francisco, Feb. 7 .- The German holders of bonds of the California Pacific Railroad have brought an action against the California Pacific Railroad Company, Milton S. Latham, F. D. Atherton, and the California Pacific Railroad Extension Company, for the appointment of two trustees of a certain mertgage ex-cuted by the former Company as security for bone issued by the Extension Company.

DISCUSSION BEFORE A JOINT COMMITTEE. ASSEMBLYMEN AND ALDERMEN LISTENING TO RAPID TRANSIT SUGGESTIONS-THE PROBLEM IN ITS LEGISLATIVE ASPECT-SPEECHES BY S. E. CHURCH, WHEELER H. PECKHAM, S. L. MACOM-

BER, MR. BOYD, S. B. BUGGLES AND OTHERS. The Committee of the Assembly had arranged to hold a meeting in reference to rapid transit in the City Hall at noon on Saturday, but in learning that the Committee of the Board of Aldermen were to hold a similar meeting at 1 p. m., they simply met and adjourned until the latter hour. At the joint session there was a very large audience, among whom were many property owners from the up-town wards and prominent citizens, including Samuel B. Ruggles, Wheeler H. Peck-ham, Ward B. Burnett, Col. Sidney De Kay of Gen. Dix's staff, B. L. Ackerman, Charles H. Roosevelt, John H. Hand, Gen. Butterfield, Horace H. Day, Lawson N. Fuller, the Hon. W. W. Niles, S. L. Macomber, John R. Kennaday, T. C. Campbell, John T. McGowan, F. W.

Seward, and Mr. Schieffelin. The meeting was called to order by Aldeman Purroy, who stated that the session was for the purpose of hearing any views that might be offered on the vital question of rapid transit, though he requested that the re-marks of the speakers should be confined to the question of what legislation was needed and the legal bearings of any legislation that might be proposed. At this time the desks half surrounding the two Committees were covered with models reads, underground and overground, which their inventors, who were present, were ready to afilm would each practically selve the problem under public agnation. S. E. Church, who first addressed the former session of the Aldermanic Committee, was again the first to gain the floor,

Committee, was again the first to gain the floor.

In beginning, Mr. Church seemed to forget the request of the Committee, and renewed the remarks be made at the former session in regard to the necessity of rapid transit, producing figures to show that without it, in 1880, there would be a loss to the city in its population of 1.276.080, and in money of over \$45,000,000. He proposed, as private corporations and enterprise had falled in numerous schemes to build a road, that the city should now direct private enterprise to stand aside and construct such a railroad as was wanted. With this view he had a bill which he proposed to submit to the Committee, the previsions of which, he said, in view of the present amendments to the Constitution, had to be made general, so as to apply to all the cities of the State, but which at the same time was intended to have special practical effect in the City of New-York. It proposed to confer upon the Mayor and Alderman of such cities power to construct railroads for rapid transit, to issue bonds for them, and to determine the form, conditions, and terms of such bonds. The bill contained provisions limiting the cost of construction to \$300,000 per mile, and authorizing assessments to be made upon property benefited within certain limits for one-half of the cost. Several eminent engineers had ceneurred in the opinion that the road could be built for \$300,000 per mile, with a double track, that in the bill it was proposed that the interest should be paid. The bill proposed also to make the carraings of the order of the transit of the cost. Several eminent engineers had ceneurred in the opinion that the road could be built for \$300,000 per mile, with a double track, but in the bill it was proposed that the assessments should run along as the bonds run, the only requirement being that the interest should be paid. The bill proposed also to make the carraings of the road primary fund for the payment of both the principal and interest of the bonds, allowing the deficiency to be collec In beginning, Mr. Church seemed to forget the re-

with able lawyers on the subject, was not in conflet with the amended Constitution, but in perfect harmony with it. The question which he desired to present in this connection was that the City of New-York was not, within the spirit of the Constitution, a corporation, but a municipal government. Provision was made in this bill for the carrying out of such improvements, for which precedents were offered within the city limits, such, for instance, as the Croton Water Works. The question of rapid transit would, he asserted, never be settled unless it was by a bill like this, giving authority to the City and County of New-York to undertake it. Mr. Boyd stated that Mr. Boure had expressed his widdless to County of New-York to undertake it. Mr. Boyd staud that Mr. Moore had expressed his willingness to a mend the bill in conformity with any suggestions that would not take away in essential features, or line sexar is digion. The speaker was opposed to calling in all the crise and thereby bring in all the opposition and incur all the hostility of the railroad monopoly from the western part of the State. They did not want bills in the largue.

Wheeler H. Peckham next addressed the Committee

of the investment of private capital. Whether the one or the other of these two plans is more or less desirable, I understand not to be the question for which the Committee is assembled, but whether the one or the other is the practicable one, under the Corstitutional amendments lately adopted. The learned gentleman who last addressed the Committee Seems to have adopted the idea that the best and most practical method is to have legislation for the City of Naw-York alone. Without knowing the details of the bill, he presents this general plan to the Committee—that legislation shall be had which shall give to this local monitoral the power to build this road. Now, gentlemen of the Committee—that legislation shall be learly unconstitutional. When I see that the eighteenth section of the amendments provides that the legislatine shall not pass a private or local bill in certain cases, one of which is granting to any corporation or association the rights—i by down In this Cadren against whole all implements the action of the setting of the certain cases, one of which is granting to be urged.

The only other clause of the testimonial states: "That he hath, as we believe, led his life, for three years last past, pieuely, soberly, and honestly." In regard to be held the solution of every basion-feet, on the strength of the docesan testimonial, unless they personally know to the contrary.

It may be thought that this reduces the range of the action of the Standing Committees within very narrow to the doces. If every Standing Committee is hereafter to overhandly every Episcopal election on any and every function of the Standing Committees. The proposition did not strik hereafter to overhandly every standing Committee is hereafter to overhandly every become contrary.

dled upon the City of New-York, for if this railroad was worth building, and if it could be made to pay, it would

have been built long ago.

S. B. Ruggles advocated the scheme of the city's undertaking the work. The only question was how to get it done immediately. The city must build a road, for otherwise they could not hope to prevail against the existing monopoly. A more suprema necessity never existed in a civilized community. Therefore he would suggest that it might be well to have seven Commissioners appointed by the Mayor of the city and Gov ernor of the State, these Commissioners to be responsible men, who could be removed at pleasure. As to the question of assessment, if they passed this bill every nch of real estate would rise 25 per cent the 'next morning. In conclusion, Mr. Ruggies said he was quite satisfied that the Board of Aldermen should also have

voice in the appointment of the Commissioners. Lawsen N. Puller took Mr. Macomber to task, and asked him if he thought Now-York only extended to Central Park. Mr. Fuiler put the advance in real estate, after rapid transit had been secured, at even a higher figure than the preceding speaker. With reference to the amendments to the Constitution he thought, perhaps, it would be well to do as Mr. Vanderbilt once did -build a road first, and test the constitutionality after-

Gen. Butterfield appeared as a property-owner in the upper portion of the city, and submitted a series of suggestions, which he and other gentlemen who were able to build a road themselves had prepared and signed. It a general law were passed, enabling the city authorities to sell franchises, they would come forward, make a fair bid, and give a bond of half a million to carry out their undertaking. First they asked for a general law and the appointment of commissioners—they did not object to the Governor being associated in the making of the appointments-to locate the routes. They asked that the routes so designated, with the franchises, should be sold

at a public sale under such terms as the city authorities might direct as to forfeitures, &c. The proposals sub-mitted provisions by which the objections of owners of property through which routes were located might be adjusted, and insisted especially that at the public sales

there should be no straw bidders. Ex-Assemblyman W. W. Niles argued that the real

Ex-Assemblyman W. W. Niles argued that the real trouble was that the tax-payers had been burdened with improvements for pleasure-seekers to the extent of hundreds of millions of dollars, while nothing had been expended to relieve those who really bore the burden.

Mr. Lozier began to speak in respect to some past projects of Commodoro Vanderbilt, but was not allowed to go outside of the question and stopped. Several plans were then presented, nearly all of which had been submitted to the Committee of the Society of Engineers. Horace H. Dar, Mr. Peterson, and John H. Hand also spoke briefly. The Committee of the Board of Aldermen will meet on Wednesday next at 1 p. m.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY OPINION CONCERNING RAPID TRANSIT.

A large gathering of the citizens of the Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Wards took place on Saturday evening at Ittner's Hall, Tremont, the object being the consideration of the needs of that portion of the city in regard to rapid transit, sewerage and Croton water. J. V. Traphagen, the President of the Central Association of these wards, presides. Simeon E. Cauren was the first speaker, and discussed the importance of rapid transit, the saving to the city which would result from it, and the present large expense to residents of the from it, and the present large expense to residents of the upper wards, who had business in the city. He advocated the construction of a rapid transit road on the east side and another on the west side of Contral Park, by the city authorities, in accordance with a bill which had been prepared for the action of the Legislature. Mr. Mcikkelman offered a series of resolutions, which were unanimously adopted, setting forth the need of more perfect drainage and of the introduction of Croton water and of other local improvements. Two resolutions were also adobted in regard to rapid transit.

Resolved, That we exceed call upon those laving is charge the consideration of the largeritant subject of rapid transit, to see their best fortes to sive in some proctical manner this great question, and that we respectfully tasker our thanks to his flower Wickiam, for the increase taken by him in the matter, as we berefulled and the consideration and the increase the side of the consideration of the proctical manner this great question, and that we respectfully tasker our thanks to his flower Wickiam, for the increase taken by him in the matter, as we berefulled to the consideration of the process of the side of the process of the more value of the process of the consideration of the process of the consideration of the process of the consideration of the larger of the consideration of the process of the consideration of the conside

ned-needed implorement. Seed, That the Central Association, representing in large part not, and must economical method for securing

CITY TRANSPORTATION CONSIDERED BY ENGI The American Society of Civil Engineers

makes an official statement through its President and Secretary concerning the report of its Committee on Rapid Transit, which was presented at the semi-monthly meeting on Wednesday last. The essential parts of the statement are as follows:

The report was accepted and referred to the Labrary Committee for publication in the monthly transactions of this Society, for dissemination among its members throughout the Union, as is usual with similar papers; but it will be understeed that the Society does not as a body make a report on any subject, nor can it be held responsible for the report of a Committee of its members on a local question of any kind, however well qualified the individuals composing the Committee may be known to be, for the expression of a sound and reliable judgment on the subject referred to those. In the present case, portions of the public interested in the proper solution of rapid transit in the City of New-York are looking for the expression of professional opinion from this society in favor of one or other of the existing schemes designed to meet the question of rapid transit.

REVISION OF THE STATUTES.

AN INVESTIGATION INVITED BY J. I. WEENER. To the Editor of The Tribune.

Six: Do me the favor to publish in your paper the inclosed copy of a note this day sent by me to the Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee Respectfully yours. J. I. WEENER. Albany, Feb. 4, 1875.

To the Judiciary Committee of the Senate: My atten To the Justiciary Committee of the Schate: My atten-tion has been called to the following passage in an address of the Hen. Montgomery H. Throop, published in Tim Trumbus of Feb. 5, and alleged to have been de-livered by him before you: But there has been another reason for the great amount of time cen-

ms the statement was in my

A CARD FROM DR. McCOSH.

NO DIPHTHERIA AT PRINCETON. -York To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sin: Will you be so kind as to state that the no tice in to-day's Herald of there being infectious diphtheria is Princeton College, or town, is utterly without foundation.

JAMES McCosn, President.

Princeton, Jan. 5, 1875.

THE TRUBUNE'S REPORT OF THE GREAT TRIAL To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sin: Some of the papers are giving themgolves a great deal of unhappiness about This Tribune. Of course the public know that their chagrin is caused by the growing popularity of THE PRIBUNE and its greater enterprise and success. The feeling is quite natural, and envious rivals should be indulged in it to a certain extent, but nothing can justify their base insinuations against THE TRIBUNE in the matter of the

THE TRIBUNE has very justly refused to accept a charge against one to whom the public owe some measure of could tener, as conclusive of guilt, but in the course of the trial to unprejudiced inide will say that the TRIBUNE has shown the least particity. Indeed its fairness has been the subject of remark on all slies, and it may challenge comparison with even Jurge Nellson in his bearing toward all concerned. What then do the envious rivals mean by their flings? Is it because The Tribunes has the toside track, because its report for accuracy, fullness, and graphic power is the favorite snell is that it, or have some papers another reason for trying to drag this case into newspaper discussion! The extreme touchiness of some persons is not likely to sid an imparial trial, and it is better new to confine the matter to the court room and develop the truth, leaving the public to draw their laferences as the case advances.

New York, Feb. 6, 1815. THE TRIBUNE has very justly refused to accept a New York, Feb. 6, 1875.

A CAUTION TO NEWSDEALERS.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sin: Again this morning I am without the Triple sheet of my TRIBUNS. This occurs so often, and at this important time is annoying. I am unwilling to attribute this to anything but carolessness on the part of somebody, and perhaps a little of your caution would make that person more careful in future, and complete your valuable report each day of the great trial now pending. Yours, respectfully, Charles Ginton.

Brooklyn. Feb. 6, 1875.

[If the name of the newsdealer were given, we should try to have the remedy applied at once.-Ed.]

INVESTIGATION OF A LIFE INSURANCE COM-PANY. Boston, Mass., Feb. 7 .- An investigation of

the affairs of the John Hancock Lafe Insurance Company has been going on, and a report will be made Mon day. This investigation, it is said, is rendered necessary by the discovery of an error in the surplus account. The Secretary, it is alleged, in 1868, by an error of judgment, carried the sum of \$70,000 or upward, being an everestimate of premium notes, to the surplus account of the Company. The exhibit for that year showed i of the Company. The exhibit for that year showed a remarkable increase in the carnings of the institution, and the policy holders received dividends accordingly. The error was discovered the following year by the Secretary, since which he has encleavered to rectify the error without disturbing the public confidence in the Company. The investigation shows that the solvency of the Company will not be affected by the error of the Secretary.

THE MASSACHUSETIS SILVER MINES. NEWBURYPORT, Feb. 7 .- Interest in the silver mines increases. A part ewner in the Chipman lode was yesterday offered \$730,000 for his interest and he refused, demanding \$1,000,000. A New-York company is investing heavily in land adjacent to the recently discovered sliver verss. They have just purchased one tract for \$30,000 and secured the refusal of several others, intending to prospect as soon as the snow is off

LOCAL MISCELLANY.

SEQUELS TO THE ELECTION. TAMMANY HALL POLICY CONCERNING THE CITY GOVERNMENT-THE DEMOCRACY DETERMINED

TO CONTROL THE DEPARTMENTS. The Tammany Committee on Organization, and the majority of the Democratic Senators and Assemblymen from this city, met in Tammany Hall on Saturday for the purpose of discussing the bills now before the Legislature especially affecting New-York City. The bill proposed by Assemblyman T. J. Campbell would remove Controller Green and Corporation Counsel Smith, and would make their offices elective. The bill of Assemblyman Costigan vests the power of reinstead of in the concurrent action of the Mayor, and Governor, as at present, and proposes that the from those states of departments that he can be a second of departments that he can be a second of the second o moval for cause of heads of departments in the Mayor,

fore this. It is asserted that the Fire, Dock, and Police Commissions will be reorganized in any case, and that it depends on the action of the Senate on bills affecting the City Government whether or not the Republician are given a minority representation in these Commissions. The Mayor at present favors giving the Republicans a representation in all of the Commissions, but whether he will confine of this mind, if the Sonate majority aythogs a partiage disposition, is an open mascans a representation in all of the Commissions, but whether he will continue of this mind, if the Sonate majority evinces a partiand disposition, is an open question. It is positively asserted that the removal of the Corporation Consol is only a question of time, and that such a pressure may be brought to tear upon the Commissioner of Paidie Works as to lead him to send in his resignation. There is no doubt that the Democracy are determined to obtain possession of the machinery of the City Government by legislative enactments, or by a change of the make-up of the existing Commissions by removals or enforced resignations. The Rapublicans, in consequence of their defeat in this State and throughout the country, are depressed, and in no condition to make a fight, in the hope that the next election will give them the control of one or both Houses of the Legislature, while the Democracy confidently believe that they can carry not only the Assembly but the Senate next Fall, and thus obtain control of the legislative as well as the executive branch of the State Government. The possession of the machinery of the City Government. The possession of the machinery of the City Government is deemed especially descrable to aid in carrying out this plan.

THE ADAMS EXPRESS ROBBERY. THE AMOUNT MISSING STATED TO BE MUCH EX-

AGGERATED-ARREST OF MEN CHARGED WITH

Daniel Hovey, John Sweeney, and James Drew, the three men who were arrested on Friday night by Detectives King, Elder and Warlow, were kept ocked up yesterday in the cells of the Police Central Office. These men were arrested on the charge of being in some manner connected with the late robbery of one of the safes used by Adams Express Company in transporting valuable packages. The safe is said to have been sent from Richmond, Va., and was supposed maney, the total value of which is only known to the Company. The following are the facts of the robbery as far as

made public: After the train had entered the depot in Jersey City, the agent of Adams Express Company, who had charge of the valuable property while on the that Hovey started off from Jersey City with the 19 safes in his wagon, but that while on the road to the office in Broadway the safe from Richmond, Va., was much as we can of both; and of the foreign article is Houlds. In collect the most described on the second recommendation of the lands of one James Drew, 1870, to July 1871, but taken out and given into the hands of one James Drew, who, the police say, is a well-known bank-robber. What is remarkable and contradictory in this story is the fact that Hovey has the receipt of Mr. Sullivan, the receiver, for 19 safes, delivered at the general office, No. 59 Broad way, on the date in question. Sanday, Jan. 24, and the receiver's books also show that 12 safes were delivered at that time by Hovey. It is claimed that Hovey caused stopped to observe the workmen there, and after a the receiver to believe that he had delivered 12 safes, though in reality he had turned over only 18. The safe from Richmond, Va., was missed on the next morning. of the officers was good enough to drive me out to the from Richmond, Va., was missed on the next morning. and its loss created a great stir in the office of the Company among those who were aware of the fact. The loss of the safe was not reported to Superintendent Walling. and probably the police would not have had anything to do with the case if it had not been for the fluding of the package of bends, by James Kopp, at Fifty first-st and Second-ave, several days ago. This turned the attention of the Express Company

dirst-st. and Second-ave., several days ago. This turned the attention of the Express Company to the detectives at the Police Central Office, and after consideration John Hoey, the agoat of the Company, swed the aid of Superintendent Walling in ferreting out the robbers. On Friday detectives king, Eider, and Warlow arrested Hovey, Sweeney, and Drew, and took their prisoners to the nearest police station, in Liberty-st., where they were locked up over night.

On Saturday the prisoners were taken to the Police Central Office, where they are now locked up. They were visited by Mr. Hoey, accompanied by Superintendent Walling, and a long consultation was held. It is rumored that these men were only a part of the gang who committed the robbery, and that the detectives are still at work. Yesterday Mr. Hoey was in consultation with Superintendent Walling several hours. After he had left the Police Central Office, Superintendent Walling was interrogated about the case. In reply, the Superintendent said that he mass positively deciline to say anything of the details at present. Ho would say, however, in regard to the amount soil to have been ices by the Company, over \$500,000, that if the information that he had received both from the highest officials of the Adams Express Company and from various other sources could be considered as trustworthy, the Company had not lost by this robbery one-sixteenth of the sum said to be missing. It was rumored yesterday in police circles that the whole amount of property and recovered will not exceed \$2,000 in value. Other rumors were floating about that large sums had been ascertained to be missing since the robery. The activity of the detectives in the case is acin value. Other rumors were hoating about this large sums had been ascertained to be missing since the rob-bery. The activity of the desectives in the case is ac-counted for by the desire of the Company to pumal the perpetrators of the crime. It is understood that Mr. Hoey has said that he had rather bring the robbers to justice and pumisiment than recover what has been lost. Further developments are expected to day.

cost \$8.50 a square yard, and that of South Fifth-ave., which is composed of granite blocks with a foundation of sand, \$6.50 a square yard. Besides, say the friends of the measure, the residents on Fifth-avenue will parabout haif of the cost under a general assessment, since they own nearly that proportion of the taxable property of the city.

In order to ascertain the feeling in regard to the bilk among tax-payers not living in Fifth-ave., a Tribung reporter has conversed with several problem to tigens and property owners in various parts of the sity, most of whom expressed themselves more or less heartily in favor of the measure.

of whom expressed thomselves more or less heartily in favor of the measure.

Commodore Vanderbilt, who has heretofore very carnestly recommended putting on asphalt pavement in Fifth-aver, said on Saturday that while he had not recently given the matter much thought, he was decidedly in favor of having a good pavement there. What kind of a pavement it should be made no difference if it was only a good one. All that he knew about asphalt pavements was what he had seen of the excellent piece opposite the Worth monoment, where it has been for twe years. "I don't care what kind of a pavement you have in Fifth-ave.," he exclaimed, "go that you get off from those stones."

John T. Agnew said he had not closely considered the

John T. Agnew said he had not closely considered the

and Governor, as at present, and proposes that the heads of departments shall be nominated by the Mayor and confirmed by the Board of Aldermen. Both measures found advocates at the conference, and they were discussed at considerable length. The majority advocated the Costigan bill, on the ground that it was of a more fixed and comprehensive character than that of Mr. Campbell, and was in accordance with the views of the majority of the leaders, and of the rank and file of the Democracy, as favoring local self-government.

A few of the speakers favored a complete change in the composition of the present Commissions, on the ground that the dominant party had hardly any representation in them, and that it was unfair to hold the Democracy responsible for the good government of the city when the most of the efficials holding responsible positions were not placed in power by the Democracy, and that party was in newise responsible for the acts of these officials. The speakers who put forward these views failed to explain, however, how any act providing for such sanction of a Republican Sentac. The larger number seemed to bargain or compromise would have to bargain for compromise would have to bargain or co

changes as those proposed could receive the sanction of a Republican Senate. The larger number seemed to favor Costigan's bill. It was agreed that it placed New York on the same footing as other cities in the State, and that there should be no valid objection to this. It was asserted that is placed New York on the same footing as other cities in the State, and that there should be no valid objection to this. It was asserted that some sort of bargain or compromise would have to be made with the Republican majority in the Senate before any bill recognizing the City Government could be got through. It was finally decided that the preference should be given to Costigan's bill, and efforts accordingly will be made to secure its passage through the Senate inter its adoption by the Assembly.

Should this bill be made a party measure and be refered by the Republican majority in the Senate, it is understood that the most of the Commissions will be reconstructed on a Democratic basis. This is the reason that the Fire Commissioners have not been removed optor that the property owners of the claying of the payments, and clearly in favor of the laying of the payment, and poor, could ride comfortably. The same views and poor, could ride comfortably. The same views are the same who has traveled in Europe, whi re ho devoted considerable attention to the subject of paymeners, and that commissions will be reconstructed on a Democratic basis. This is the reason that the Fire Commissioners have not been removed optor that the commissions will be reconstructed on a Democratic basis. This is the reason that the Fire Commissioners have not been removed optor that the proposed by other prominent payscham. A gentlement, because he considered its amoutaness, notice to previde where the payment is the succession of the same to provide where the payment of the street. Mr. Throop further to five that the provent of that the power of the laying of the payment of the street. Mr. Throop further to five that the provide with the Legislature th unies in Loudon without passing over any pavement except asphalt, and the derightful sensation of raim rapidly without noise, or loining, or dust, was something that could not easily be imagine ! by those accustomeonly to the rough-stone pavements of New-York. The asphalt, laid in such quantities, was perfectly offered from dirf, and in every way as perfect as a pavement could be. A DESCRIPTION OF THE ASPHALT PAVEMENT OF

PARIS-METHOD OF LAYING IT, AND MATERIALS USED-ITS ELASTICITY, CLEANLINESS, AND DURA-BILITY.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: The plan of paving Fifth-ave, with the material of which a sample section was laid down he ar Madison-ave., something like two years ago, meets with favor, and seems likely to be forthwith adopted. The material in question is "asphalt concrete," resting on "hydraulic concrete"-at least such are the terms used in your paper of to-day, though the specimen in question rests immediately upon the old granite blocks. A test of two years would seem to be sufficient. I am in favor of paving the avenue as proposed without any delay, nor would I say a word to prevent, if I could. But I write this because I have some facts to communicate that will be of interest to all who wish to see New-York a decently clean city, and which the present is an auspicious time for making known.

I do not know if the "asphalt concrete" in question is patented. I hope it is not. Patents lead to monepolies, rings, and jobs. And yet they have their advan-tages, too. If, for instance, the French asphalt pavement had been covered by a patent, private interest would long ago have pushed and forced it into use in this country instead of the half dozen different compounds of coal tar, sand, cinders, &c., that we have of have been sent from Richmond, Va., and was supposed late years been laying down and taking up again. It to contain a large amount of bonds and packages of has been because there were no "millions in it," nothing to gain beyond the profits of any other open bost ness, that we still remain practically ignorant of the great advantages of the French pavement. Now I don't pretend to know what is the composition of the pavement material it is proposed to apply to our great who had charge of the valuable property while on the train, loaded 12 of these small safes, or iron boxes, upon I observe to be twice as black as the Paris asphalt, and Hovey's wagon, taking his receipt as usual. It is said | twice as thick, and I presume it is amaterially different compound. It may be a botter one for aught I can tell much as we can of both; and of the foreign article I now propose to tell what I know.

I lived in Paris during the year 1807, which was the

year in which the municipality for the first time began to employ the asphalt in paving the roadways of streets; its use before then having been confined to a few ex-perimental sections, courtyards, &c. The first street they paved with it was, I think, Rue Richellen. I often while became sufficiently interested to call at the office works where the asphalt was prepared and show and explain the whole process. The asphalt rock used, a kind of sandy limestone, brought from the mines of the company in the Val de Travers, on the borders of Switzerland, was saturated with about 14 per cent of natural bitumen. Brought to the works in lumps of convenient size, it was crushed by means of iron rollers armed with knobs, and then baked, either in open pans or retary cylinders, which had the effect of completing its pulverization to a fine powder that looked like maccaboy snuff. This powder, hot from the baking, was hauled in iron carts to where it was to be used, and there dumped on the foundation that had been prepared for it of hydraulic or other kind of concrete. There, while still hot, it was rammed with hot irons to as compact a consistency as might be-the work of a few minutes only. In a few hours afterward the roadway could be used. The thickness of the lower concrete bed was about six or eight inches, and of the asphalt, after it was rammed or inches, and of the asphalt, after it was rammed or rolled, five centimeters, or something less than two inches. At first rather spongy, and yielding slightly for the moment to the wheels of heavy vehicles, the asphalt becomes by use quite compact on the unper surface, hardened by the action of the wheels. But even this hardening extends but a little way down, and the body of the layer remains spongy and springy still—a very important quality for resisting shocks and wear. A rondway thus paved resembles a surface of sole leather, both in color and consistency, more nearly than anything else I think of. It has no appearance of pitchiness. It is the ne plus ulbra of a pavement, unless the one now proposed for Fifth-ave, should be found to excel it. Fourteen percent was the proportion of bitumes contained in the

in value. Other rumors were floating about that large suns and been ascertained to be missing state the role of the company to punish the preparators of the orime. It is understood that Mr. How has said that he had rather bries; the robber to lost. Further developments are expected to day.

THE FIFTH-AVE. PAYEMENT.

AN ASPHALT PAYEMENT GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE—PROPERTY OWNERS ON OTHER STRUCTS FAVOR IT.

The bill for repaving Fifth-ave. with asphalt attracts wider attention every day, and its friends apphalt to bring it up to the proper countries and apphalt to be growing more numerous. The established appear to be growing more numerous. The established accelence of asphalt as a paving material, and taking, extensive, and successful use in the called cities of Europe, have had great weight in favor of the proposition for cities the proposition of cities of the meaning of the measure express surprise that in the chief city of the Westera world, which is so far in the chief city of the Westera world, which is so far in the chief city of the Westera world, which is so far in the chief city of the Westera world, which is so far in the chief city of the Westera world, which is so far in the chief city of the Westera world, which is so far in the chief city of the Westera world, which is so far in the chief city of the Westera world, which is so far in the chief city of the Westera world, which is so far in the chief city of the Westera world, which is so far in the chief city of the Westera world, which is so far in the chief city of the Westera world, which is so far in the chief city of the Westera world, which is so far in the chief city of the Westera world, which is so far in the chief city of the Westera world, which is so far in the chief city of the Westera world, which is so far in the chief city of the Westera world, which is so far in the chief city of the Westera world, which is so far in the chief city of the Westera world, which is so far in the chief city of the Westera world with the world world with the